MR. CHAIRMAN: Question hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Consumption of Coal by Thermal Power Plants

*571. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the MINISTER OF COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of coal is imported every year for consumption by thermal power plants in the country;

(b) the quantities of coal supplied by Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries to the respective thermal power plants and the volume of coal imported by them during the last five years;

(c) what measures have been taken by CIL for washing of coal with a view to enhancing its purity and enabling reduction, particularly in the cost of transportation of pure coal of greater calorific value to the power generation units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) No, Sir. A small quantity of coal is being imported by some of the thermal power plants located at coastal areas due to cost consideration and for blending with indigenous coal.

(b) Year-wise despatch of coal and coal products by Coal India Limited (CIL) to thermal power plants (TPPs) and the coal imported by thermal power plants for last five years are given below:

(figures in million tonnes)

Year	Coal despatch to TPPs	Import by TPPs
1998-1999	184.17	0.61
1999-2000	195.76	1.21
2000-2001	208.46	2.41
2001-2002	216.87	3.56
2002-2003	221.21	3.17

(c) and (d) The following measures have been taken by CIL to ensure purity of coal:

(i) Adherence to the envisaged mining sequence laid out in the mining method itself.

(ii) Picking of oversize stones/boulders, extraneous material.

(iii) Size reduction in coal handling plants/crushing machines thereby segregating different size fractions and eliminating the impurities of higher density.

(iv) Adopting proper blasting procedure/technique for reducing the possibility of admixture of coal with over burden materials.

(v) Washing/up-gradation of coal in coal beneficiation plants thereby reducing the ash content in beneficiated coal and also facilitating setting up of washeries in the private sector.

(vi) Adoption of surface miner for winning of coal to facilitate selective mining.

Approval of Publishers

*572. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'BAHARI'S PUBLICATIONS' of Central Civil Service Rules and Fundamental Rules and Supplementary Rules, handbook have been approved by the Central Government;

(b) if so, whether there is any discrepancy in publications of above rules by BAHARI'S PUBLICATIONS and Muthuswamy's compilation of above rules; and (c)

(c) is so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) No, Sir. There is no system of approving any publication by the Central Government. Therefore, Bahari's Publications' Central Civil Service Rules, Fundamental Rules & Supplementary Rules has also not been approved by the Central Government.

(b) The Central Government does not go into discrepancies in publications brought out by two different private publications.